

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Toledo Museum of Art
[Toledo, OH]

1928-1933

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

October 6, 1928

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

I wonder if you would be interested in having for the Numismatic Society Collection some Chinese coins of the Sung period from Inner Mongolia. When I was in the Orient last year studying the Secretary of the South Manchurian Railway presented me with a good many coins which had been excavated when the Company was laying some of their road, with the idea that I would give them to some American Museum where they would be acceptable. We have already made a selection for The Toledo Museum of Art but there are a good many duplicates and if you would care to see some of them I will send them on to you. although this period may be well represented already in your collection.

Sincerely yours,

J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art

By

Dorothy Blair
Dorothy Blair
Assistant Curator

8th October, 1928

Mr. J. Arthur McLean,
The Toledo Museum of Art,
Toledo, Ohio

Dear Mr. McLean:

We would be very glad to have the Sung coins from Inner Mongolia; although our collection is well represented in Sung coins these may be of styles and kinds different from what we have, as presumably those pieces we do possess came from Central and Eastern China. Thank you very much for remembering us.

Very truly yours,

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

October 10, 1928

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway Between 155th and 156th,
New York City, N.Y.

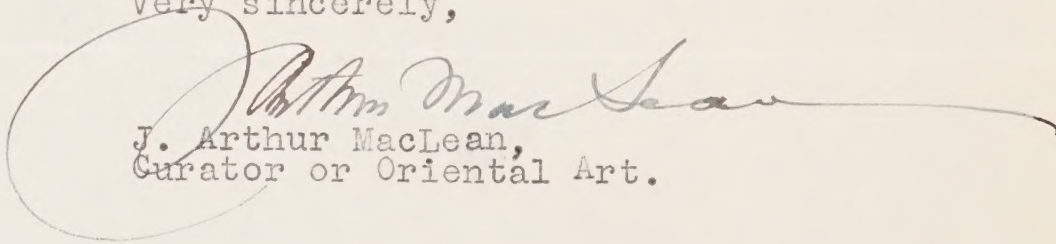
My dear Mr. Wood:

Greetings! It is nice to have your note of October 8 and to hear from you again which reminds me that I have not seen or heard from you for a long time. When you are passing through Toledo, be sure and drop off and pay us a visit.

The coins which we wrote you about are interesting. Miss Dorothy Blair, my assistant, has just returned from a year in Japan and in one of her trips into Mongolia, Dr. Uyeda gave her a small group of coins which he personally secured from a Mongolia tomb. Their source being known we thought that you would be glad to share with us the chance to add to your collection providing you do not have them already represented.

You will know therefore that this gift is from Dr. Uyeda through Miss Dorothy Blair with the good will of the Toledo Museum of Art.

Very sincerely,



J. Arthur MacLean,
Curator of Oriental Art.

JAM:GB

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

November 20, 1928

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

I am at last sending you the coins from Manchuria about which we have had some correspondence. There were a great many duplicates in the lot which Dr. Uyeda gave me, but I have selected some of every kind which were included and have even sent you some duplicates of these in cases where they were quite clear. There are 52 in all, which I hope will prove useful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Blair

Dorothy Blair
Assistant Curator
Department of Oriental Art

28th November, 1928

Miss Dorothy Blair, Assistant Curator,
Department of Oriental Art,
The Toledo Museum of Art

Dear Miss Blair:

I beg to acknowledge your gift of the 52 Chinese coins found in a tomb in Manchuria. I have not compared the pieces with ours, and I think we probably have most of them. However, what I intend to do is to keep them as a lot, as having come from a tomb. Were there found, by any chance, in the tomb any similar pieces but gilded? It sometimes was the custom to gild a few of the ordinary cash pieces in early days.

Again thanking you, I remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

April 20, 1929

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

We greatly appreciate your letting us have your Glover Collection catalogues, which have been an aid to us in connection with our coins. They are going forward to Mr. Noe together with the Lockhart Collection Catalogue which he also sent us.

The tomb where the coins which were sent you some time ago was apparently at Ssping Kai, though there has been some question about the handwriting. I have written Dr. Uyeda for confirmation of this and had hoped to have a reply long before this. I do not know whether any of the other coins found with these were gilded or not, or whether other objects were found in the tomb. Dr Uyeda is Secretary of the South Manchuria Railway and the tomb was on some of their property.

Sincerely yours,

J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art
By *Dorothy Blair*
Dorothy Blair, Assistant Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

June 20, 1930

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Last summer we had some correspondence with you regarding coins of the Chinese Emperor "Omo". We have finally identified him with the Emperor Wang Mang, 9-23 A.D., "Omo" being the Japanese pronunciation of the characters of his name. We would appreciate it very much if we might either have a photograph of one of the finest of his coins or have it sent on to us to be photographed as you suggested last summer in case it is not convenient for you to send us a print.

Sincerely yours,

J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art

By *Dorothy Blair*
Dorothy Blair
Assistant Curator

June 23, 1930

The Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo, Ohio

Attention Miss Dorothy Blair, Asst. Curator

My dear Miss Blair:

In reply to your letter of June 20th, the usurper Mang Mang was one of the most prolific issuers of coins China has known. He issued several series that have resemblances to a Yale key, some that have a blunt pitchfork shape, and many varieties of round coins. We much prefer to photograph these pieces here rather than send them out. If you wish we can make a negative showing the outstanding varieties. The price would be four dollars. I will await word from you before we proceed.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

July 31,
1930

Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155th Street,
New York,
N.Y.

My dear Howland Wood:

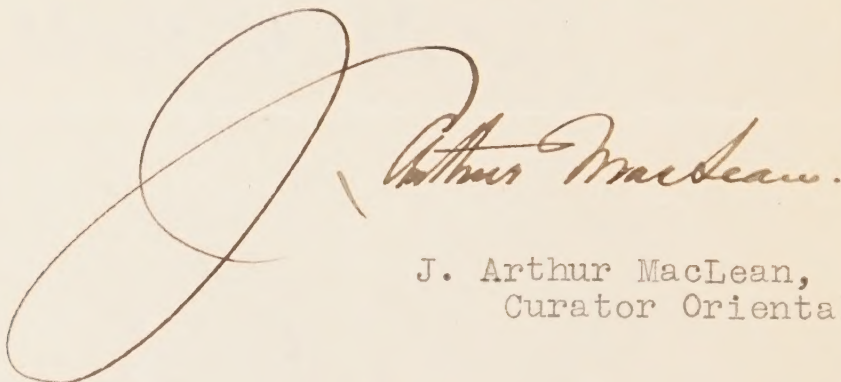
Four Dollars! Four Dollars! Four Dollars!
Where is that Four Dollars?

I refer to your note of June 23 in which you say that the usurper Wang Mang was one of the most prolific issuers of coins China has known and that you will photograph a few of this old rascal's coins for four dollars.

You might just as well have said forty dollars. Can't you put them in a little box and insure it, and let our photographer take the negative, of which we will be glad to send you prints, thus get the four dollars swallowed up in our standing budget, instead of trying to extract it, per se.

With best regards to you, I am,

Ever sincerely yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Arthur MacLean". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

J. Arthur MacLean,
Curator Oriental Art.

August 5, 1930

The Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo, Ohio

Dear Mr. MacLean:

Herewith I am sending you several coins of
Wang Wang so that you can do your own photo raphing. I know just
how it is. We have to pay good money to get photographs, and
therefore we have to charge. We have a wonderful, new Museum, so
whenever you get to New York, I wish you would give us the once
over.

Sincerely yours,

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

August 13, 1930

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

We very much appreciate your sending us the eight coins of Wang Mang, which we have ordered returned to you by registered mail.

We have had the coins photographed and will send you the negative in a day or two, together with a print from it. We are also enclosing fifty cents in stamps to cover the postage and registering.

I trust the coins will reach you promptly. Will you kindly sign the pink shipping order which is enclosed herewith when the coins are received and return it to us for our files?

With thanks and appreciation of
your cooperation,

Sincerely yours,


J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

July 9, 1932

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Association,
156th Street,
New York,
N.Y.

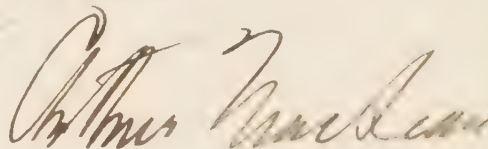
My dear Howland Wood:

I am preparing a series of lectures for next season on the arts of China and I would like to have as a topic Numismatics.

I have taken up to a certain extent, of course, purely from an artistic point of view, using coins and so forth, but find very naturally that I am destitute of data and especially of illustrative material.

Do you have anything which I could borrow, at our expense of course, which would help me in preparing a lecture on this subject. I would like very much to have about twenty-five illustrations, to supplement the lecture.

Very truly yours,



J. Arthur MacLean,
Curator Oriental Art

July 28, 1932.

Mr. J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art
The Toledo Museum of Art
Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue
Toledo, Ohio.

Dear MacLean:

Please pardon me for not answering sooner but not being on the job all the time the past month I could not get around to studying your proposition. I have laid out two photographs; a number of the earlier Chinese coins showing the best and most artistic of the various shapes. In other words, I have tried to put the best foot forward. I have also included a few of the round ones as well as two or three of their amulets or medals - about 22 in all. I do not know just how many negatives these will take but can photograph a number together. Our photographer has been away the past three weeks but will be back the first of August and unless I hear from you to the contrary will proceed to photograph these. Reading through your letter again I should judge you would rather have the pieces sent on and you do your own photographing, as presumably you will want lantern slides. Let me know and I can send these coins on. One or two must be handled with the greatest care as they are very fragile.

Very truly yours,

W:JG

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

August 1, 1932

Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Mr. MacLean is out of town at present, so I am acknowledging your letter of July 28th regarding the Chinese coins. If you are willing to send the coins on to us, at our expense of course, we should be very glad to have you do so, as our photographer could then work at first hand for the slides. Our photographer, however, is out of town and would not be ready to do it until about August 15th.

With appreciation of your
assistance,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Blair

Dorothy Blair

Assistant Curator of Oriental Art

August 17, 1932.

Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo, Ohio.

Gentlemen: Attention: J. Arthur MacLean

I am dispatching to you today by parcel post the Chinese coins we have been corresponding about. I am sorry about the delay of these but have been largely away all of the summer. If after seeing these there is anything that you might think of that you want in addition let us know. I have written out a brief description or identification of all of the pieces sent.

Very truly yours,

H :JG

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

August 29, 1932

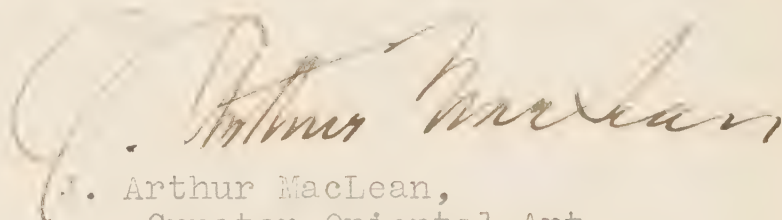
Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway bet. 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Howland Wood:

We are very grateful to have the loan of the Chinese coins of which we are having photographs and lantern slides made. In this connection would you like a set of lantern slides of these coins. If so, we would be very glad to send you a set gratis, and also a set of prints.

We will handle the coins very carefully and return them to you when the photographer is through with them.

Ever sincerely and gratefully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arthur MacLean", written in a cursive style.

Arthur MacLean,
Curator Oriental Art

September 7, 1932.

Mr. J. Arthur MacLean
The Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo, Ohio.

Dear Mr. MacLean:

In reply to your letter of August 29th we would be very glad to have you send us lantern slides of the Chinese coins. We for so etime have been accumulating lantern slides as well as having them made as occasion requires. As a matter of fact, we are very weak in lantern slides of Chinese coins.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR
MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

October 4, 1932

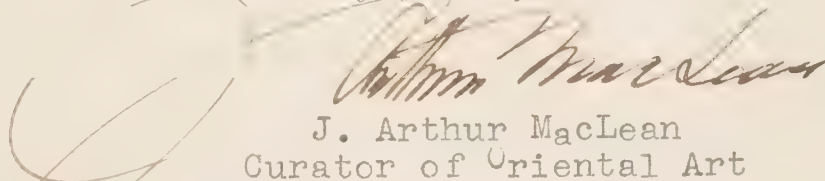
Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Society,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

We are very grateful to you for sending the group of Chinese coins on to us for the making of lantern slides. I have kept the coins, thinking to return them with a set of the slides made from them for your slide collection. However, our photographer seems to be submerged under a burden of rush work and the slides are not yet finished.

During the month of November we are to have an exhibition of Chinese art here, which we are now assembling. It is to be quite general in scope, following the subjects which will be discussed in my course of weekly lectures on Chinese art for the year. We are therefore anxious to include some fine Chinese coins, and it occurred to me that you might be willing to let us retain the group which we have now and exhibit them during November as a part of the exhibition. If this is possible we will appreciate it very much. But if it is not expedient and you wish the coins returned now we will, of course, send them on at once.

Sincerely yours,


J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art

October 6, 1932.

Mr. J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art
The Toledo Museum of Art
Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue
Toledo, Ohio.

My dear Mr. MacLean:

I have your letter of
October 4th and we are very glad to have
you keep our Chinese coins for your exhibition of Chinese art during the month of
November.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR MRS. GEORGE W. STEVENS, ASST. DIRECTOR

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO, OHIO

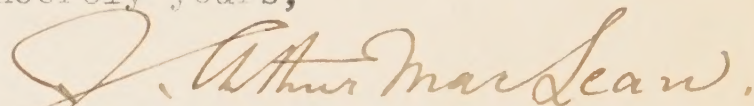
January 12, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

We returned to you yesterday,
by Railway Express repaid, the 21 Chinese coins
and amulets which you were kind enough to lend
us for the making of lantern slides and for our
exhibition of Chinese Art. We appreciate
greatly your willingness to let us have these.
I am sorry not to have gotten them off a little
earlier to you, but the great pressure attendant
upon the opening of our completed wings on January
10th has kept us tremendously busy.

Sincerely yours,



J. Arthur MacLean
Curator of Oriental Art

P.S. Will you kindly sign the enclosed pink receipt
form when the coins have arrived, and return
it to us for our files?

January 16, 1933.

Mr. J. Arthur MacLean
The Toledo Museum of Art
Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue
Toledo, Ohio.

Dear Mr. MacLean:

The package containing the Chinese
coins received Saturday and I have already sent back
to you the pink receipt. I trust you found the coins
of benefit.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

March 2, 1933.

Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo
Ohio.

Gentlemen: Attention: J. Arthur McLean

The lantern slides of the Chinese coins arrived yesterday and I wish to thank you personally and also on behalf of the Society for presenting these to us. I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator